

A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR COLLECTING DIVERSE DATA
TYPES WITHIN A MANUFACTURING ENVIRONMENT AND ACCESSING
THE DIVERSE DATA TYPES THROUGH A NETWORK PORTAL

5 ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

 The present invention provides a system for dynamically publishing
diverse data in a manufacturing environment. This system comprises diverse
data sources from which raw data is gathered. Translators then translate the raw
data into a user-specified format. The translated raw data is then loaded into an
10 application server. A summarization engine indexes the translated raw data and
maintains the index within a relational database. This data is then navigable by a
user interface from which a user inputs a request for data. Software instructions
executed by the application server retrieve and display the translated raw data
relating to the requested data.

15 Additional embodiments incorporate both analysis tools coupled to the
application server operable to perform analysis and visualization tools to visualize
the translated raw data relating to the requested data via the user interface.